

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

HAVE established myself at this Port as Merchant and Commission Agent.
A. MACG. HEATON,
14th Hongkong, 1st March, 1874.

NOTICE.

HAVE this day established myself at this Port as a WINE and SPIRIT MERCHANT and GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.—
OFFICE—No. 50, Queen's Road Central.
ED. CHASEL.
3rd 1874, Hongkong, 1st November, 1874.

NOTICE.

THE Undermentioned hereby beg to notify for general information that there is no Partnership whatever in the Photographic business carried on under the Style or Firm of APING, the Underengaged being the Sole Proprietor.

M. NOGUERA MENDES is authorized to sign my name for prosecution.

AFONG
Photographer.

of 1830, Hongkong, 4th November, 1874.

MR. UNDERWOOD has been appointed 1 AGENT at the Port for Messrs. HENRY S. KING & Co., of London.

Office—No. 6, Stanley Street.

W. H. NOTLEY,
1875, Hongkong, 24th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

M. ALFRED THOMAS MANGER has this day been admitted a Partner in our Firm.

DOUGLAS LAPRAK & Co.
1829, Hongkong, 2nd November, 1874.

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. THOMAS PICKERING DROWN, in our Firm, ceased on the 10th November, 1874.

E. VINCENT & Co.
Swatow, China, 10th October, 1874.

M. COLIN CAMPBELL WILLIAMS is this day admitted a Partner in our Firm.

E. VINCENT & Co.
Swatow, China, 10th October, 1874. Tel. 1658.

THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY

For 1875.

THE Publisher requests that those persons who have not yet returned the printed forms which have been sent to them to fill up, will be good enough to do so without delay. Any persons who have recently arrived, and to whom printed forms have not been sent, are respectfully requested to forward their names and addresses as early as possible for insertion.

Daily Press Office, Dec. 3d, 1874.

MARRIAGE.

At the Union Church, Hongkong, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. James Lamont, Presbyterian Minister, JAMES MURRAY, Surgeon, Army Medical Department, to MAY SMITHERS, daughter of John Inglis, Esq.

[2039]

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 14TH, 1874.

The case with reference to the collision between the steamer *Kuangtung* and a Chinese junk, of which we recently gave an abstract report from the *Foochow Herald*, demands attention on account of its forming an entirely new, and, we think, a somewhat dangerous precedent with reference to the jurisdiction which should obtain in such cases. The matter was heard before a Mixed Court, and the Chinese Court may direct the mode and the place where the case is to be heard "notwithstanding anything in this order." It appears that in accordance with this latter provision the Consul at Foochow applied to Sir EDMUND HORNEY, who effected that the case should be heard before the Consul and the Taotai, and the male was proceeded with strictly in that form. The Captain of the *Sea Gull*, who sat with the Consul being there not as an Assessor, but merely as a friend, to give him such advice and assistance as appeared to be necessary. The result of the investigation, as our readers are aware, was that the owners of the steamer were condemned in damages to the extent of \$1,800, and Captain *Paxton*, who from the first had protested against the constitution of the Court, was informed that there was appeal to Mixed Courts when the Consul and the Taotai agreed. This happy concurrence of opinion having subsisted between these two august personages, the owners of a British vessel are condemned to pay a large sum of money upon the sole dictum of a Chinese Mandarin, who of necessity knows absolutely nothing with regard to foreign vessels, and a Consul, who knows about as much. It is stated that the parties concerned do not feel satisfied with the decision, which they hold to be against the weight of the evidence, and it is, therefore, a very unsatisfactory state of things that there should be no more suitable Court to hear such cases.

It would be very satisfactory, as the matter forms an important precedent, if the Chief Justice would publish the reasons which led him to decide upon having the matter brought before a Mixed Court. In the absence of any statement of such reasons, we can only surmise that they are based upon some technicality with reference to proceedings in Admiralty. Such proceedings are in rem that is against the thing as opposed to *in personam* against the person, and the territoriality privileges granted by the treaty attach only to persons. From this it may appear that the Chinese have a right untouched by the treaty stipulations to attach a vessel in Admiralty, and on this ground it may have been assumed that a British Vice-Admiralty Court could have no jurisdiction in China, although damages were sought from a British ship. It is however rather a wide assumption to conclude that the Chinese have anything similar to Admiralty jurisdiction. As a matter of fact, so far as is known, it is a peculiarity of all Chinese laws that they are mainly personal, and contain very little which bears an analogy to procedure in rem in any case. But even if this was not

stretching a point in Chinese favour to a rather noticeable extent, it would seem that the principle "actio sequitur forum ro," the author follows the Court of the thing in dispute—that would be in this case not the ship but the money claimed as compensation, for the recovery of which the vessel is attached as security—would apply. However this may be, it is clear that if the proceedings at Foochow were correct, the Supreme Court at Shanghai can have no jurisdiction in Vice-Admiralty in a similar case, because the right of jurisdiction depends upon the provisions of the treaty, and the order in Council only regulates its mode. If the jurisdiction was not conceded, nothing in the Order in Council can confer it against the rights of the Chinese. If the Chinese, on the other hand, have no jurisdiction in such cases at Shanghai, how comes it that they have such jurisdiction at Foochow? Sir EDMUND HORNEY is so high an authority upon this question of this kind, that we presume he has some good reasons for the course he has adopted—but it is certainly difficult to understand the matter without further explanation that has yet been made.

It is evident, if the course of action taken is to be adopted as a precedent, it will be necessary that some suitable form of procedure be drawn up to meet such cases in future; as it is certainly very unreasonable that nautical cases should be decided without the assistance of skilled Assessors. A decision so arrived at can give satisfaction to no one, and it is very apt to be directly contrary to the merits of the case. In the present instance, it is said that the evidence was most conflicting, and that as far as it went, it showed that the jury had not shown proper lights, and it is a very unsatisfactory state of things under such circumstances that it is impossible, with every respect for the Consul and the Taotai, to feel that there has been any decision given which can carry the requisite authority to form even a presumption against the complainant which are made, the merits of which, on account of there being no appeal, can never be known.

The first bell was rung on Saturday evening, but happily the alarm turned out to be a false one.

The cause of the 12-0 steamship *Orissa* breaking down was the giving way of machinery connected with the piston rod.

Mr. F. L. DENNIS applied to the Chief Justice in the Supreme Court, on Saturday, for letters of administration on behalf of deceased brother. The application was granted.

[2039]

REV. DR. ELLIS, of the London Missionary Society, presided in Union Church yesterday, morning and evening. There was a large attendance on both occasions and collections were made on behalf of the Society.

On Saturday last, as the *Tartessos* on her arrival steamed up through the shipping, one of the small boat-gangs alongside of her and all its occupants were thrown into the water. None of them were drowned.

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Extracts.

THE MOON AND THE MAIN.
A small Indian, a
Said in a drowsy tone,
One thought ere in face,
And a little like an eye.
When the purest love is seen,
Full-lighted from a heart,
Whose never a care has been,
In peace and joy to part.

I thought it was the silent moon
Was like a nail I knew
Who perched all day so soon,
And a bird of prey.
The night has laid on a rest,
On which the sunlight seems
While the living soul will flows,
And make it dream.

That moon like the nail she said—
So pale, pure, and still;
On my face it calmly beamed—
I felt its splendour all day long.
My heart was then beguiled
To rise and wend away;
Slowly and fridly they ran—
Ran with a silver glow.

I have thought that moon appeared
To tell me of the rest—
To solve my heart's yearning—
To tell the time I had.

I only saw it once,
My loved and lost dear friend;
Rehears when the nail she gave,
And change late played!

CHRISTIAN BURIAL.

With the introduction of Christianity the practice of cremation died out, and by the fourth century seems to have become quite extinct. This may have been partly owing to the Jewish origin of Christianity, but is probably due to greater measure due to the widespread belief in an immediate Second Advent. Many, if not all of the early Christians believed that the bodies which they committed to the earth would be raised and purified from the stains of mortality in the day of the Resurrection. It need hardly be said that this is in direct opposition to the teaching of First Christians, chap. xv, where we are emphatically told that we do not know what bodies the dead shall be raised. The practice of ashes has taught men the true meaning of that sublime passage. Swift and sure is the doom of our mortal vestment, whether we committed it to the devouring flame or to the corrupting earth. A hundred years hence will not matter which we chose. The atoms which have composed our body will have dispersed in a thousand directions, will have taken new forms, will have become dust, it may be of other organisms. That which we now call our body is made up of what in bygone ages may have been part of the body of our fore-father. Nature is economist of her materials, and uses them many times. But the spiritual body which we look to receive is different from the natural body. In the Resurrection they neither man nor woman give in marriage. The distinctions of mortality are lost; we have borne the image of the earthly, but then we shall bear the image of the heavenly. It does not appear what we shall be, but at least we shall not be shut up in this trifling frame, in order to restore them to health, and to preserve them from witchcraft, accident, and pestilence. But the most important ceremony is when the youths and maidens leap through the fire, for that is a master of both hand and hand. The more invitation is a public sign of wooing, and acceptance shown by which this haloed youth of whom organs and organs is governed, but expressions of the will of him who has attained an immortality of joy, not half entombed into the heart of earth to conceive what he hath prepared for them that love him.—Macmillan's Magazine.

SOCIETY IN INDIA.

Society everywhere in India labours under very great disadvantages, and varies very much according to the character of its ever-changing leaders. Sir Emerson Tennent has observed that "it is unhappy the tendency of small sections of society to decompose when separated from the great vital mass, as pools stagnate and putrefy when cut off from the invigorating flow of the sea," and he adds that the process is variable, so that a colonial society which is repulsive to-day may be attractive to-morrow, or a contrary change may take place with one or two deportments of new arrivals. The same holds good in India; and though Indian society can boast of some superiority to colonial (a superiority which is amusingly asserted on board mail-steamer), it has very great defects of its own, and in certain circumstances degenerates into the intolerable. One tendency of life in India is to create an immense amount of conceit, and to make men assume airs of superiority, not because of any superiority of mind or character, on account of services rendered to the State, but because long residence in the country, or in some particular district of it, has given them local appointments, or the knowledge of local conditions. Then, though military society has many good points, discipline must be observed; and it was in perfect good faith, and expressing his own opinion as well as that which he believed to be generally entertained, that an old Indian remarked to me, "We don't think much of any one's opinions here until he is a lieutenant-colonel at least." Of course in all countries opinions are often measured by the position of the spokesman; but in Europe that is not much the case as in India, and in our happier climate it is easy to abase the society of snobs, whether social or intellectual, without becoming a social pariah. This social tendency is not corrected, but developed rather than otherwise, by a close bureaucracy such as the India Civil Service—and there is no other element in the community sufficiently strong to correct it; while it is almost justified by the extraordinary effect India has in rapidly producing intense conceit and insufferable presumption among Europeans of a low order of mind and character, whatever classes of the community they may belong to. Nothing struck me more in that country than the contrast between its elevating and even enabling effects on those Europeans whose minds were above a certain level, and its exactly contrary effects on almost all those who were below that level. What, then, Indian society has specially to struggle against are two apparently opposite tendencies—a slavish respect for mere position, and for exceptional power and knowledge in particular directions; and, on the other hand, excessive individual conceit and presumption. But these evil tendencies (which curiously enough, belong also to the Indian native character) are not opposed in any way as to counteract each other. On the contrary, they are apt to foster and inflame each other; because the old Indian justly sees that he has opposed to him an immense deal of ignorant presumption which ought to be severely repressed, while the democrat and griffin instinctively feel that they are oppressed by an amount of tyrannical old foggism which would not be allowed to exist in any other country. The more acute English travellers see a little of this state of matters, but everything is made as pleasant as possible to travellers in India with good introductions; and it is necessary to reside for some time in the country in order to understand what an absolute necessity it is in himself and how entirely his importance, his accomplishments, his character, his value, and his very *raison d'être*, depend on the appointment which he holds. I do not at all wonder at that old sergeant in a very out of the way place in the jungle, who, on being asked what he did there, answered with some surprise, "Why, sir, I fill the situation." In Anglo-India you do not fill the situation, it is the situation that fills you, and makes you what you are, and without which you would immediately collapse.—Blackwood's Magazine.

RELIGION OF THE POEMOSANS.

The religion they profess takes the form of the grossest materialism. They believe that the world is governed by a good and an evil spirit, each of whom is constantly striving for the mastery; and that both are to be propitiated by presents and sacrifice. The priesthood is monopolised by women, who combine fortune-telling with their ecclesiastical duties, and exercise supreme power over their votaries by trading on their superstitions and funerals, at the same time that they retain their hold over their adherents by encouraging them, in the names of their gods, to give full rein to their passions.—Cornhill Magazine.

A CURIOUS COFFEE-HOUSE.

Of all the queer ways by which men have immortalised their names, there are not many queerer than that by which a certain Mr. Lloyd appears to have done it, and to have done it most effectively. Little of nothing is known of this worthy, except that some time during the last century he kept a coffee-house in or near a church Lane, and had the good fortune to let largely, indeed, by shipowners and captains, in coffee, tea, and sugar.

Lloyd's Coffee-house," or the abbreviated "Lloyd's," came in course of time to be the recognised rendezvous for all who were very interested in shipping matters. Mr. Lloyd died nobly known, exactly when and where his coffee-house had long since disappeared.

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